

# NH Bureau of EMS-Bulletin

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MAY-JUNE 2012

## ***Message from the Bureau Chief***

EMS Week is May 20 to 26, 2012. On behalf of all the staff at the NH Division of Fire Standards and Training & Emergency Medical Services, I would like to sincerely thank you for the time and commitment you have made to the communities you serve, and to the EMS profession. You make the world a little better place with every patient encounter, and I am proud to be associated with you.

-Clay Odell

## **Trauma & Emergency Preparedness Section**



This last month has been an eventful one for the Trauma Section.

- Concord Hospital officially added Pediatric Trauma Level III designation to their pre-existing American College of Surgeons Level III verification.
- Southern NH Medical Center in Nashua received Adult Level III and Pediatric Level III trauma designation.
- Elliot Hospital in Manchester has just received Adult Level II and Pediatric Level III trauma designation. One of the major hurdles for NH hospitals to achieve level II trauma designation is the ability to provide 24/7 neurosurgical coverage to their trauma patients. This is a great resource for the residents of southern/central NH.

Congratulations to all three hospitals on the wonderful site visits. And thank you for your educational outreach to our local EMS providers.

Finally, we are very excited to announce that we have secured federal grant funding through the NH Highway Safety Agency to purchase a State Trauma Registry. This is critical in allowing us to match clinical outcomes to our initiatives within the trauma system. We will provide more details as information becomes available. Thank you to the trauma registrars for your support in this transition.



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## **Education Section**

### **A note about “Transitions”**

NH “Transition Modules” have been renamed to “NH Scope of Practice Modules”. Now the term “transition” course specifically refers to the conversion course material that will be given as part of the RTPs that will allow the EMS provider to be upgraded to the New National Registry designation.

Starting this summer, you will begin to see RTPs with “transition” become available. Once you complete one of these modules, you will be eligible with the National Registry to upgrade to your new provider level the next time you renew your National Registry certification. You only need to take one of these “transitions” once, but you cannot upgrade without taking one.

**Deadlines to Upgrade:** All providers whose NH EMS provider license expires on odd years (2011, 2013) will have until 2015 to complete this requirement. All Providers whose license expires in even years (2012, 2014) will have until 2016 to complete this requirement. If you don't complete a transition course by your deadline, the National Registry will automatically drop your provider level to the next lowest level (i.e. Intermediate will drop down to EMT).

# Advanced Life Support

## Protocol Committee:

The MCB will be reviewing the following protocols this week:

- Finish up the Airway Management protocols
- Abuse and Neglect
- Advanced Spinal Assessment
- Bloodborne/Airborne Pathogens
- Crime Scenes
- DNR
- Intraosseous
- Immunizations
- On-Scene Medical Personnel
- Pediatric Restraint for Transportation
- Response to Domestic Violence
- Vascular Access

## EMS at Non-911 Events

The committee continues to work on the matter of EMS providers working in non-traditional, non-emergent situations.

Examples we have used include sporting events, concerts, county fairs, summer camps, etc. Currently, our protocols do not allow for treating and releasing non-urgent care; therefore the committee is crafting a prerequisite protocol which would allow EMS providers to function at these events.

## STEMI/Stroke Summit

The STEMI/Stroke Summit is just a few weeks away. This event is hosted by the NH Bureau of EMS, the NH Department of Health and Human Services, and the American Heart Association. Our goal is to initiate a conversation and begin collaboration about the current status of STEMI and stroke care here in NH. The Summit will bring together providers, administrators, and public health experts to share knowledge, provide networking opportunities, and develop a shared vision for the future. For more information, please call Vicki Blanchard or Angela Shepard at 223-4200.

# Field Services Section

## Annual EMS Awards – Deadline June 1, 2012

The EMS Annual Awards are fast approaching the deadline for nominations. The 2012 nomination form and the description of each of the six awards are located on the Divisions website: <http://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/forms.html#awards>  
Please take the time ~ it is important to all involved!

During EMS Week please take time to recognize your peers within the EMS profession for the exceptional work that they do. Educators that raise the bar to make sure emergency medical providers are on their game each time they respond; Providers who go above and beyond to give the best patient care possible; EMS Units that serve their communities with the highest of dedication; Each of these deserve to be nominated and recognized.

### Changes are a comin'

The EMS Field Services Section is in the process of changing the license application and the means by which they are submitted. Through the years the application forms have changed but many Units maintain the old forms and keep making copies for their Providers to complete and submit. **All old forms will be considered invalid** for submission after this new process is implemented. If submitted, the old forms will be returned to the applicant and they will be notified of the current acceptable method for application (this will slow down their license).

Each Unit Leader and Provider will be notified of the new form, and process, in advance of the implementation date. We will also post it to the website and send a notice out over the Listserve. Thank you for your diligence with regards to these changes. (**It is time to purge the files!**)

# Research & Quality Management

We will be conducting a TEMSIS town meeting (June 14th at 6pm) which will consist of a presentation about how TEMSIS works, and current and future changes and improvements in the system. This will be followed by an open question and answer session with NHBEMS staff for all stakeholders to ask questions about, and make suggestions for improving the TEMSIS system. We will be video conferencing from a variety of sites in the state. Stand by for additional information.

**Save the Date: TEMSIS Town Meeting  
June 14<sup>th</sup> at 1800 hours**